

A regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Wednesday, February 10, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

President Brian S. McCarthy presided; City Clerk Patricia D. Piecuch recorded.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Patricia D. Piecuch; Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane led in the Pledge to the Flag.

The roll call was taken with 14 members of the Board of Aldermen present

Mayor James W. Donchess and Corporation Counsel Stephen M. Bennett were also present.

REMARKS BY THE MAYOR

Mayor Donchess

First, City Clerk Patricia Piecuch did a really good job in managing the election along with all of the poll workers. We had many voters at all of the polls yesterday and the election went smoothly and the City Clerk's office did a really good job, not only the City Clerk but everyone that works for her.

Also, we had a snowstorm the day before the election and I thought the DPW did a pretty good job of cleaning all of that up.

On the Burke Street project, the garage that we have purchased and now will be upgrading; the committee that is supervising the project will be meeting with architects soon. I talked with Alderman McCarthy about scheduling a meeting of the Board of Aldermen on a Saturday morning which will probably occur in March so that everybody who has not seen the building can go through it. That will be a public meeting so I expect there will be some members of the public that will attend and go through the building as well and I encourage everyone to do that because it is a very interesting building and an interesting project and it will be worthwhile to have seen it as we go forward.

Next we have Lydia Foley who is up for the BIDA tonight. She was recommended of course by the committee and I think she's a great appointment. She is a young person in our community who has started her own business downtown, Purple Finch Realty. I think she will provide a perspective to the BIDA that they do not currently have and also I think she will learn from the more senior members of the BIDA about many business and development issues that we have in the city.

The Art's Commission is helping to supervise the consultant web in the study regarding the feasibility of a Performing Arts Center. They have concluded their first interviews and I think they are asking to come back to talk with a few more people regarding location and some other things but that seems to be going very well. I finished, along with a number of the Aldermen who attended, the Ward meetings that we held in each of the nine Wards. I thought the input was very positive and constructive. I learned a lot and I believe the other members of the Board who were able to attend also learned a lot.

Finally, we met with State DOT earlier this week regarding the disagreement concerning the Broad Street Parkway, specifically the issue of whether the parcels that were acquired for the route that was later changed are eligible for federal reimbursement. This is a one of a kind issue because it is very rare apparently that a route is approved and then an acquisition is made and then that route is changed. This has raised some unique issues which our team is discussing with DOT and ultimately with Federal Highway but it does raise issues regarding whether the city can get back all of the federal money that was earmarked for the project. We feel strongly that we should and that there is sufficient reason for that to occur pursuant to law and regulations but those discussions are on-going.

RESPONSE TO REMARKS OF THE MAYOR - None

RECOGNITION PERIOD – None

READING MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN WILSHIRE THAT THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING OF JANUARY 26, 2016, BE ACCEPTED, PLACED ON FILE, AND THE READING SUSPENDED
MOTION CARRIED**

COMMUNICATIONS

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN COOKSON THAT ALL COMMUNICATIONS BE READ BY TITLE ONLY
MOTION CARRIED**

From: David G. Fredette, Treasurer/Tax Collector
Re: Purchase Replacement for the 2003 Dodge Caravan Capital Equipment Reserve Fund (CERF)

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN COOKSON TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE PURCHASE REPLACEMENT FOR THE 2003 DODGE CARAVAN
MOTION CARRIED**

From: Stephen M. Bennett, Esq., Corporation Counsel
Re: Nashua Collegiate Baseball, Inc.

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN CARON TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND REFER TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
MOTION CARRIED**

From: Arthur L. Barrett, Jr., Chairman
Re: Request for Joint Convention with the Board of Library Trustees

**MOTION BY ALDERWOMAN MELIZZI-GOLJA TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND THAT THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEET IN JOINT CONVENTION WITH THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2016, AT 7:30 PM IN THE ALDERMANIC CHAMBER
MOTION CARRIED**

Alderman Moriarty

I recognize the name Holly Klump because I think we recently approved her nomination for something and half of us called her Mr. Klump? Is that for a different position? It seems like we already did this.

President McCarthy

I'm not sure what you are referring to.

Alderman Moriarty

A couple of months ago Holly Klump was in here and was nominated for a position. Is this a different position?

President McCarthy

There may be another trustee position that needs reappointment or is open. I don't have any information about what position it is.

Alderman Moriarty

Okay. I thought we already did this, that's all.

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT RELATIVE TO ITEMS EXPECTED TO BE ACTED
UPON THIS EVENING - None

PETITIONS – None

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

Appointments by the Mayor

The following appointment by the Mayor was read into the record:

City Solicitor

Steven A. Bolton, Esquire (New Appointment)
4 Kyle Drive
Nashua, NH 03062

Indefinite Term at the Pleasure of the Mayor

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN CLEMONS TO ACCEPT THE APPOINTMENT BY THE MAYOR AS READ
AND REFER IT TO THE PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MOTION CARRIED**

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Finance Committee 02/03/16

There being no objection, President McCarthy declared the report of the February 3, 2016
Finance Committee accepted and placed on file.

Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee..... 02/01/16

There being no objection, President McCarthy declared the report of the February 1, 2016
Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee accepted and placed on file.

Planning & Economic Development Committee 01/21/16

There being no objection, President McCarthy declared the report of the January 21, 2016
Planning & Economic Development Committee accepted and placed on file.

Planning & Economic Development Committee 02/02/16

There being no objection, President McCarthy declared the report of the February 2, 2016
Planning & Economic Development Committee accepted and placed on file.

WRITTEN REPORTS FROM LIAISONS - None

CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS

Business & Industrial Development Authority

MOTION BY ALDERMAN CLEMONS TO CONFIRM BY VOICE VOTE THE APPOINTMENT OF LYDIA J. FOLEY, 2 BRUCE STREET, NASHUA, TO THE BUSINESS & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE SEPTEMBER 13, 2017
MOTION CARRIED

President McCarthy declared Lydia J. Foley duly appointed to the Business & Industrial Development Authority for a term to expire September 13, 2017.

Oath of Office administered by Corporation Counsel.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

O-16-001

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane
Alderman Ken Siegel
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Sean M. McGuinness
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy

INCREASING THE LOWEST PURCHASING LIMIT FOR SMALL PURCHASES FROM \$1,000 TO \$5,000

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN DEANE FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF O-16-001
MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance O-16-001 declared duly adopted.

O-16-002

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman-at-Large Daniel T. Moriarty
Alderman-at-Large Mark S. Cookson
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Tom Lopez
Alderman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Benjamin M. Clemons

INCREASING THE EXEMPTION FOR SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS

Given its second reading;

MOTION BY ALDERMAN WILSHIRE FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF O-16-002

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Schoneman

I attended the Personnel & Administrative Affairs Committee meeting on this ordinance and I'm not one of the co-sponsors but I do support it. The logic I have for supporting it is based on a very informal market survey that I did with a realtor here in Nashua, there appears to be indifference in the market to the solar installation on a particular property. Some people might be in favor and some people might be against when they go to see a property. They might see value there or might not. It's similar to other installations that could be at people's homes. For instance, I got a telephone call from someone who has a tennis court in their backyard. They didn't build the tennis court and they don't want and it's falling into disrepair yet they are assessed for the value of that tennis court. When they go to sell their home I think they are going to find that it may add value to one person but not another. The market effect of something like a tennis court, a pool or a solar installation may be neutral and if the market effect is neutral then I think we should not have an assessment. To provide an exemption for something that is market value neutral I think is a great idea but there are other things like tennis courts and swimming pools that may be in a similar category. While I support this and I'm not being critical of the Assessing Department, I do think that we need to think about assessing additions to properties that actually add a real market value not just because it would seem to be to somebody of some value. I support this but I think we need to be careful about granting exemptions in a way that's universal for other similar so called improvements that may or may not add market value.

Alderman LeBrun

Alderman Schoneman answered most of my questions but I will be voting against this.

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance O-16-002 declared duly adopted.

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS**R-16-007**

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderdwoman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF \$40,000 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INTO PUBLIC HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES GRANT ACTIVITY "FY2016 AND FY2017 CLIMATE AND HEALTH ADAPTATION PLAN (CHAP)"

Given its first reading; assigned to the HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE by President McCarthy

R-16-008

Endorser: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Brian S. McCarthy
Alderdwoman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja

ADDING FOUR ADDITIONAL PARCELS TO THE "SPIT BROOK ROAD ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION ZONE"

Given its first reading; assigned to the PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE by President McCarthy

R-16-009

Endorser: Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman Benjamin M. Clemons
Alderman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja

**APPROVING THE COST ITEMS OF A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE NASHUA POLICE COMMISSION AND THE NASHUA POLICE SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION
FROM JULY 1, 2015 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2019 AND RELATED TRANSFERS**

Given its first reading; assigned to the BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE by President McCarthy

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES

O-16-003

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Ken Siegel

ADMINISTRATIVE ENFORCEMENT OF ORDINANCES

Given its first reading; assigned to the PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE by President McCarthy

PERIOD FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Alderman Moriarty

I'd like to address the upcoming budget very briefly. Did we find out what the spending cap is going to be? Is it 1.3% or 1.9%? Regardless, the spending cap is going to be somewhere between 1.3% and 1.9% this year. Not everybody may realize this but if you look at the salaries of the collective bargaining contracts on page three they have a listing and some of the salary contracts go out many years and that's a reminder that the agreements that we have before us do not imply that there is money in the budget for the salary contracts as currently written. When you consider it remember that the money is not previously allocated, in fact, one way to be able to determine in advance whether there is going to be money in the budget to afford these contracts is simply comparing the bottom line percentage of the growth to what the expected spending cap is going to be. For instance, the spending cap predicted if it is indeed 1.3%; we look at R-16-002 which is the para educators and we find their salary increase for FY '16 is 1.4% and for in FY '17 it's 1.3% so I would conclude that I would generally be in favor of R-16-002 because it's total cost additions to the taxpayers is within what the spending cap is predicted to be. In R-16-003 we look at approving the cost items of the collective bargaining agreement Board of Education with the food service workers and we see in FY '16 the net cost is 1.5% and then 1.7% and 1.9% so those numbers fall somewhere between the 1.3% and 1.9% that we expect the spending cap to be. I would think that in addition their base salaries only go up 1% per year and the additional cost is due to things out of their control like retirement cost and insurance. Personally I believe that R-16-003, the salary contract for the food workers is probably affordable, it's going to be in the budget. R-16-009 cost items bargaining agreement between the police commissioners and the police supervisors. That one we find that FY '16 it grows at 3.5% and in FY '17 it's 4% and FY '18 is 4.4% and FY '19 is 3.3% which is far in excess of the spending cap and the spending cap is based on inflation rates and inflation rates sort of track what the general salaries of the general public. I am still concerned about R-16-009 and I think each of you should take some time to look at that one closely and find out if you think that salary for that collective bargaining agreement is actually affordable based on the upcoming spending cap. That's it for now, thank you very much.

Alderman Schoneman

There is going to be an Emergency Preparedness Training class held in Ward 3 at the Gate City Church. It's a 20-hour course that takes place over two consecutive Saturday's. The first one is February 27th and the second one is March 5th and this is being conducted by the City of Nashua and the emergency response

team here in the city. If you want information on that you can go to the GoNashua.com website or to the church website which is gatecitychurch.org.

Alderman Siegel

I would like to thank the poll workers and Ms. Piecuch for doing an excellent job at the polls.

I would also like to offer my condolences to the Soucy family who lost Dick Soucy.

Alderman Caron

I too would like to thank the City Clerk's office, it was a long day and the staff worked very well.

I would also like to extend my condolences to the Soucy family.

Alderman Dowd

I'd like to thank all of the people who voted yesterday, it was a phenomenal number. I just wish we had that kind of interest in local elections.

Also, the food service contract that was mentioned is self-funding and not out of the general budget. It's contained within the monies raised for lunches.

Alderman Wilshire

I too would like to send condolences out to the Soucy family on the loss of Dick Soucy.

To respond to Alderman Moriarty's question about Holly Klump, she was appointed to fill Mo Arel's seat for the remainder of his term which ends March 31st. The communication before us was for her to be appointed to the seven year seat.

President McCarthy

This is when the term would have expired so she's being re-appointed for the subsequent term.

I would add my condolences to the Soucy family. I knew Dick for many years and his service to the community will be greatly missed and we thank him for it.

I also want to thank the City Clerk on yesterday's elections. We were not the lead story on the 11:00 p.m. news so for that I thank you very much. Every four years in the spring we get to say welcome to New Hampshire to all of the candidates for president and then on the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November we get to say I hope you enjoyed New Hampshire – now go home.

Committee announcements:

Alderman Wilshire

We rescheduled the Human Affairs Committee to February 16th after the State-of-the-City here in the Chamber. We have public hearings on Community Development Block Grant and Home Investment Partnership Funds and a public hearing on the historical impact of the proposed demolition of 42 Chestnut Street. It will probably be at about 7:30 p.m. or 7:40 p.m. here in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Alderman Dowd

There is a Budget Review Committee meeting on February 18th at 7:00 p.m. here in the Chamber.

Alderman Siegel

There is a Substandard Living Conditions Committee tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. here in the Chamber.

Alderwoman Melizzi-Golja

The Planning and Economic Development Committee has been cancelled for next Tuesday so the Human Affairs Committee can have their meeting because of the need to get going on the CDBG.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN WILSHIRE THAT THE FEBRUARY 10, 2016, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ADJOURNED
MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Attest: Patricia D. Piecuch, City Clerk